

**From:** Roy Seneca/R3/USEPA/US  
**Sent:** 2/23/2012 3:05:16 PM  
**To:** "Taylor Mirfendereski" <taylormirf@mac.com>  
**CC:** "Terri-A White" <White.Terri-A@epamail.epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Send your Dimock questions here...

Taylor -- Sorry, but I am not going to be able to meet your deadline for Friday with answers to these specific questions. However, here is a link to our Jan. 19 press release: EPA to Begin Sampling Water at Some Residences in Dimock, Pa. and below is desk statement we issued on January 26. These should answer some of your questions and provide you with some helpful background:

EPA is in this community sampling and providing water as a direct result of requests from Dimock residents. Our priority is the health of the people there, and our actions are guided entirely by science and the law. We are providing water to a handful of households because data developed by Cabot itself provides evidence that they are being exposed to hazardous substances at levels of health concern. We are conducting monitoring as a prudent step to investigate these concerns and develop a sound scientific basis for assessing the need for further action. This is consistent with steps we would take in any situation where we are presented with potential health risks to citizens under the federal laws we are charged to carry out.

In his State of the Union address, President Obama made clear that he is committed to tapping America's natural gas as part of a new era in American energy. He also affirmed our commitment to "developing this resource without putting the health and safety of our citizens at risk."

We have been clear that if we see an immediate threat to public health, we will not hesitate to take steps under the law to protect Americans whose health may be at risk. The Agency also welcomes PADEP and Cabot's participation in the sampling. Without a doubt, EPA's samples will be collected and reviewed using the highest scientific standards and we will take into account all other relevant and reliable data developed by PADEP and Cabot. The residents in Dimock deserve answers based on the facts, and we look forward to working together to meet our responsibility to this community.

Roy Seneca  
EPA Region 3 Press Officer  
Office of Public Affairs  
seneca.roy@epa.gov  
(215) 814-5567

**From:** Taylor Mirfendereski <taylormirf@mac.com>  
**To:** Roy Seneca/R3/USEPA/US@EPA  
**Date:** 02/23/2012 01:15 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Send your Dimock questions here...

Thanks, Roy! Appreciate your help.

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Taylor Mirfendereski

Reporter & Anchor, WOUB News  
SPJ President, Ohio University  
RTDNA President, Ohio University  
SPJ National Board of Directors  
Co-Chair, AASBJ (AAJA)  
[www.taylormirfendereski.com](http://www.taylormirfendereski.com)  
[taylormirf@mac.com](mailto:taylormirf@mac.com)  
614.975.6260

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 23, 2012, at 1:05 PM, Roy Seneca <[Seneca.Roy@epamail.epa.gov](mailto:Seneca.Roy@epamail.epa.gov)> wrote:

Yes, we received your email and we will work on getting you some answers. -- Roy

Roy Seneca  
EPA Region 3 Press Officer  
Office of Public Affairs  
[seneca.roy@epa.gov](mailto:seneca.roy@epa.gov)  
(215) 814-5567

From: Taylor Mirfendereski <[taylormirf@mac.com](mailto:taylormirf@mac.com)>  
To: Roy Seneca/R3/USEPA/US@EPA  
Cc: Terri-A White/R3/USEPA/US@EPA  
Date: 02/23/2012 10:50 AM  
Subject: Re: Send your Dimock questions here...

Hi Roy,

Thanks for agreeing to answer my questions about the situation in Dimock, PA. They are below. Please confirm that you received this e-mail and are still able to assist me.

Thanks!

Taylor

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**Taylor Mirfendereski**  
Reporter & Anchor, WOUB News  
[taylormirf@mac.com](mailto:taylormirf@mac.com)  
614.975.6260

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What prompted the EPA's decision to deliver fresh drinking water to residents in Dimock, PA?

How was the decision made?

Why did the EPA decide to get involved?

When did the EPA get involved?

When did the EPA start delivering water? How long is this expected to continue?

How many homes in Dimock, PA had their water sampled? On what roads?

What chemicals were found in the homes that received water?

What levels of the chemicals were found in the homes?

What harmful effects could these chemicals have to those who are exposed?

Did the EPA test water in cities other than Dimock? (ie: Bradford County) If so, what did you find? If not, do you have the intention of testing homes in that county?

Why didn't all homes with contaminated water get fresh water delivered? (ie: the home Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy)

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

How many water wells in Dimock were affected by the drilling? How many wells were fauled by stray methane gas from Cabot's drilling operation.

Is the sampling complete?

If a person's well contains methane, what precautions should they take?

Has the contaminated water caused any health risks?

What steps is the EPA taking to ensure that Pennsylvania residents have access to safe drinking water?

Has the EPA determined whether or not water contamination is linked to fracking?

On Feb 16, 2012, at 11:19 AM, Roy Seneca <[Seneca.Roy@epamail.epa.gov](mailto:Seneca.Roy@epamail.epa.gov)> wrote:

Taylor -- I hope you have a safe trip and good luck with your interviews. Please email your questions to me and my supervisor Terri White. Thank you.

Roy Seneca  
EPA Region 3 Press Officer  
Office of Public Affairs  
[seneca.roy@epa.gov](mailto:seneca.roy@epa.gov)  
(215) 814-5567